

3 March 1976

STATINTL

MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED] Assistant for Resources

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FROM: [REDACTED] Deputy Chief,
Information Systems Analysis Staff

SUBJECT: Coordination of RD&E Program

REFERENCE: DDS&T Memorandum No. 908-76, Same Subject,
dated 20 February 1976

1. The process of review and coordination of the Agency R&D Program at least goes back to 1970 when OPPB formed an R&D Team (of which I was the Chief) to develop procedures for effecting better communication and coordination among Agency components contributing to the RD&E Program. This humble start gave impetus to the creation of an RD&E notebook and the review procedures outlined in referent memo. In short, I feel there is nothing new here, save for the review milestones associated with the modified budget cycle.

2. Notwithstanding, I believe there is a continuing need to articulate better our needs for RD&E support on one hand to sharing our problems (and "objectives") with components who either have a direct or indirect interest in such activity or who may offer some potential for a solution on the other. In this regard I am attaching a copy of a memo which we sent to ORD recently which exemplifies this exchange.

3. Another example of what the DDA might suggest for consideration of possible research and development attention or as the referent memo states, "new capabilities that you would consider most worthwhile . . .," is the technology reported by the marriage of the computer to micrographics. While the output device (COM) has moved right along and is growing in acceptance at a healthy rate both within the Agency and elsewhere, the reverse technology (Computer Input Microfilm--CIM) while proven has unfortunately not left the ground. However, we feel it should have broad application within the Agency and therefore believe that some effort

should be expended (a) to examine carefully the potential of the technology against broad Agency requirements and (b) to consider the cost of adapting state-of-the-art equipment to service these needs. The justification for this CIM effort could easily be linked to the FOIA and Privacy Act matters, for instance, as more and more resources are devoted to satisfying requests from the public for more and more information. For example, by the use of CIM, large volumes of filmed material could be entered into a computer, manipulated, and searched by the computer, thereby reducing the need for the brute force approach to the task of searching Agency records. Also the photographic step of converting a hard copy document to a medium which could be readily acceptable by the computer is much faster and more efficient than keying the complete document. CIM as an off-the-shelf device appears to have proven the concept will work, and is currently in use by the U.S. Navy. Both the [REDACTED] and the [REDACTED] have also acquired the capability and, in fact, the [REDACTED] are using their CIM to replace some 250 key-punch operators as their method of converting data for input to their computers. CIM may also prove to function over the long haul much better than Optical Character Recognition (OCR) devices currently available. OCR readers are usually font dependent and for the most part we have little control over the type fonts used in the preparation of Agency documents. The Information International Incorporated GRAPHIX-1 CIM device has an omnifont reading capability including foreign languages, such as Greek, Japanese, Arabic, etc.

4. In conclusion it would seem that closer integration of the MBO process and the coordination of the RD&E Program (or any other program for that matter) would produce desirable results.

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

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DC/ISAS

DATE 3 March 1976

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TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

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COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

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to 5 - John - there are ISAS - MPB comments re the Stinson R-10 paper. Pls return to me + I will keep with the rest

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